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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/717,223	11/19/2003	Richard Ferrant	S1022.80580US01	6020

7590 04/19/2005

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EXAMINER

LE, TOAN K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2824

DATE MAILED: 04/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

ER

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/717,223	Applicant(s) FERRANT RICHARD	
	Examiner Toan Le	Art Unit 2824	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 November 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/19/03</u> . | 6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>East search history</u> . |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The Preliminary Amendments filed on November 19, 2003 and August 30, 2004 are acknowledged.

Priority

2. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in France on 5/24/2000. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the 00/06645 application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

Information Disclosure Statement

3. This office acknowledge receipt of the following items from the Applicant:
Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on November 19, 2003.
4. The information disclosure statement filed 11/19/2003 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which **requires a legible copy of each cited foreign patent document**; each non-patent literature publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Drawings

5. Figures 1-2B should be designated by a legend such as **--Prior Art--** because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected

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drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

6. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Figure 5 was not described in the specification.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Iwahashi (US. 5,953,274).

Iwahashi discloses in Figs. 16-18C, a ROM circuit including memory cell columns arranged in group of two adjacent memory cell columns (see fig. 16), each memory cell column comprising a plurality of MOS transistors connecting in series and being connected to a bitline (BL1, BL2), each column in the group having a selection means (72₁, 72₂) capable of selectively activating /deactivating the column and being controlled by an activation line (see col. 12, lines 15-20) which is connected from column decoder (73) to control gate of selection means (72₁,

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72₂) (see fig. 16), wherein the activation line of a column is brought to a ground potential to deactivate the column (see col. 12, lines 20-24). Also, Fig. 16 shows the selection means of a column comprising a MOS transistor in series with the memory cells of the column and arranged at the end of the column not connected to the activation line of the other column of the group. Iwahashi further discloses an amplifier (fig. 17) connecting to the bit lines (BL1, BL2 of fig. 16) connected to the two columns of a same group, wherein the amplifier having means for invalidating the information present on the bit line connected to the deactivated column in the group and having a means for lowering the voltage present on the bit line connected to the deactivated column in the group (see col. 13, line 59 to col. 14, line13).

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Iwahashi (US. 5,877,982) discloses a memory device having circuitry for selecting a block in both read and write modes.

Rao (US. 5,200,922) discloses a flash memory device having a redundancy circuit enabling the redundancy of a row or a column in a memory array.

Sheppard (US. 4,495,602) discloses a multi bit read only memory circuit.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Toan Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-1872. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8.00AM - 5.30PM).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Elms can be reached on (571) 272-1869. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TL
April 18, 2005



ANH PHUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER